WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Airstrips in Rajasthan

† *684. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the places in Rajasthan where new airstrips are proposed to be constructed alongwith the cost of each of these airstrips and the present status of the one proposed to be constructed at Ajmer;

(b) whether Government propose to construct an airstrip at Sawai Madhopur, a major tourist spot in Rajasthan which is also famous for Ranthambor Tiger project and whether Government are aware that it will boost tourist industry of the country; and

(c) by when, international flights will be introduced from Jaipur, one of the major airports of Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHR1 SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN) : (a) and (b) Airports Authority of India on request from the State Government has identified a site for construction of an airport at Ajmer. The proposal is at a preliminary stage and it is too early to assess the cost at this stage. At present, there is no proposal for construction of an airstrip at Sawai Madhopur.

(c) Indian Airlines has already commenced daily international service on Jaipur-Delhi-Dubai Sector and Wee-versa from 12th February 2002.

Coffee production

*685. SHRIJANARDHANAPOOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of annual coffee production and consumption in the country during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that supply of coffee has outstripped the demand in the country resulting in a loss of remunerative prices for the coffee growers;

(c) if so, the details in this regard;

(d) whether coffee growers in the country have demanded relief measures from the Central Government for tiding over the crisis faced by them; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard and Government's reaction thereto?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.